

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A service processing apparatus comprising:
  - a setting unit that sets at least a location of document data and a content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and sets a processing order of the plurality of service processes, the plurality of services processes being executed serially, executed in parallel, or executed both serially and in parallel, on the basis of the processing order set by the setting unit;
  - a generating unit that generates, on the basis of settings made by the setting unit, instruction data instructing to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set by the setting unit, the settings including the location, the content of a plurality of service processes, and the processing order;
  - an interpreting unit that determines whether the instruction data includes instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial;
  - a rewriting unit that rewrites the instruction data to instruct to execute the plurality of parallel-executable processes in parallel under the condition that the interpreting unit determines that the instruction data includes instruction which instructs to execute the plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial, and
  - a cooperative processing unit that controls, on the basis of the rewritten instruction data, a plurality of service processing apparatuses connected to a network to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in parallel.
2. (Original) The service processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a judging unit that judges whether each of the plurality of service processes is executable; and

a processing unit that makes, if a service process is judged unexecutable by the judging unit, a service processing apparatus in charge of the unexecutable service process execute a predetermined executable service process.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A service processing method performed by a processing apparatus, the method comprising:

at least one or more processors to implement the following steps:

\_\_\_\_\_ setting at least a location of document data and a content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and setting a processing order of the plurality of service processes, the plurality of service processes being executed serially, executed in parallel, or executed both serially and in parallel, on the basis of the processing order;

\_\_\_\_\_ generating, on the basis of settings made in the setting step, instruction data instructing to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set in the setting step, the settings including the location, the content of a plurality of service processes, and the processing order;

\_\_\_\_\_ determining whether the instruction data includes instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial;

\_\_\_\_\_ rewriting the instruction data to instruct to execute the plurality of parallel-executable processes in parallel under the condition that the instruction data is determined to include instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial; and

\_\_\_\_\_ controlling, on the basis of the rewritten instruction data, a plurality of service processing apparatuses connected to a network execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in a cooperative manner.

5. (Original) The service processing method according to claim 4, further comprising:

judging whether each of the plurality of service processes is executable; and making, if a service process is judged unexecutable, a service processing apparatus in charge of the unexecutable service process execute a predetermined executable service process.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A service processing apparatus comprising:

a setting unit that sets at least a location of document data and a content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and sets a processing order of the plurality of service processes, the plurality of service processes being executed serially, executed in parallel, or executed both serially and in parallel, on the basis of the processing order set by the setting unit;

a generating unit that generates, on the basis of settings made by the setting unit, instruction data instructing to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set by the setting unit, the settings including the location, the content of the plurality of service processes, and the processing order;

an interpreting unit that determines whether the instruction data includes instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial;

a rewriting unit that rewrites the instruction data to instruct to execute the plurality of parallel-executable processes in parallel under the condition that the interpreting unit determines that instruction data includes instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial; and

a process executing unit that executes a service process on the document data on the basis of the rewritten instruction data; and

a sending unit that sends the rewritten instruction data to a service processing apparatus for executing a next service process after the process executing unit has finished execution of the service process.

8. (Original) The service processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

a judging unit that judges whether the service process is executable; and

a processing unit that executes a predetermined executable service process if the service process is judged unexecutable by the judging unit.

9. (Currently Amended) A service processing method comprising:

at least one or more processors to implement the following steps:

\_\_\_\_\_ setting at least a location of document data and a content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and setting a processing order of the plurality of service processes, the plurality of service processes being executed serially, executed in parallel, or executed both serially and in parallel, on the basis of the processing order;

\_\_\_\_\_ generating, on the basis of settings made in the setting step, instruction data instructing to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set in the setting step, the setting including the location, the content of a plurality of service processes, and the processing order;

\_\_\_\_\_ determining whether the instruction data includes instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial;

\_\_\_\_\_ rewriting the instruction data to instruct to execute the plurality of parallel-executable processes in parallel under the condition that the instruction data is determined to

include instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial;

\_\_\_\_\_ executing a service process on the document data on the basis of the rewritten instruction data; and

\_\_\_\_\_ sending the rewritten instruction data to a service processing apparatus for executing a next service process after the process executing step has finished execution of the service process.

10. (Previously Presented) The services processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the plurality of service processes include at least two of:

- (i) copying of the document data;
- (ii) printing of the document data;
- (iii) scanning of the document data;
- (iv) facsimile of the document data;
- (v) mail delivery of the document data;
- (vi) storage in a repository of the document data;
- (vii) reading in a repository of the document data;
- (viii) OCR processing to the document data; and
- (ix) noise elimination to the document data.

11. (Previously Presented) The service processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

each of the plurality of service processes corresponds to each of the plurality of service processing apparatuses on a one for one basis.

12. (Previously Presented) The service processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a storing unit that stores a list of parallel-executable processes,

wherein:

the interpretation unit determines whether at least two of the plurality of service processes instructed in the instruction data correspond to the parallel-executable processes in the list.

13. (Previously Presented) The service processing according to claim 1, further comprising:

a cooperative processing unit that sends the rewritten instruction data to the plurality of service processing apparatus to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in parallel.

14. (Previously Presented) A service processing apparatus which is used with a setting unit and a generating unit, wherein:

a setting unit sets at least a location of document data and a content of a plurality of service processes to be executed on the document data, and sets a processing order of the plurality of service processes, the plurality of services being executed serially, executed in parallel, or executed both serially and in parallel on the basis of the processing order set by the setting unit; and

a generating unit that generates, on the basis of settings made by the setting unit, instruction data instructing to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in the processing order set by the setting unit, the setting including the location, the content of a plurality of service processes, and the processing order;

the service processing apparatus comprising:

a controller that:

(i) determines whether the instruction data includes instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial;

(ii) rewrites the instruction data to instruct to execute the plurality of parallel-executable processes in parallel under the condition that the instruction data is determined to include instruction which instructs to execute a plurality of parallel-executable processes in serial; and

(iii) controls, on the basis of the rewritten instruction data, a plurality of service processing apparatuses connected to a network to execute the plurality of service processes on the document data in parallel.

15. (Previously Presented) The service processing method according to claim 4 being performed by at least one processor.